

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Tom Brymer, City Manager

Date: August 31, 2004

Subject: FY 05 Budget Clarifications

The following are some clarifications on some items that have been discussed as part of the 2004-2005 budget process.

**City Center Public Art Set Aside**

- The proposed budget includes a proposal to begin setting funds aside for future public art as part of the City Center project. This is being proposed based on the direction of the City Council to begin to set aside funds for future public art as part of the city center project at the November 25 2003 City Council Meeting.
- It is recommended that this be accomplished by setting aside \$330,000 per year for 3 years from the 5 major operating funds. These are the General Fund, Electric Fund, Water Fund, Wastewater Fund, and Sanitation Fund. The FY 05 proposed budget includes \$66,000 in each of the 5 operating funds. This will generate approximately \$1 million over the next 3 years.
- These funds would be set aside and a future Council will determine how to spend these resources for public art projects in the City Center.
- Originally an option utilizing a percentage of capital projects for public art was considered, however it was determined this was not a viable option.

**Review of Art and Culture Outside Agency Requests**

- In 2003 the City Council provided direction to have all art and culture related outside agency requests reviewed by the Arts Council of Brazos Valley.
- In the FY 2004-2005 budget process there were several requests for art and culture related organizations. These includes the Brazos Valley Children's Museum, the African American National Heritage Society, the Brazos Valley Veterans Memorial, and the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum.
- **The Arts Council of Brazos Valley provided a letter with the recommendations on these requests. This letter included the following regarding the Children's Museum "We respectfully decline to make a recommendation regarding the Children's Museum. It has chosen not to be an affiliate of the Arts Council, thus we are not informed sufficiently to make a recommendation."**
- It should also be noted that in FY 2001 the College Station members of the Joint Relief Funding Review Committee recommended that the Children's Museum receive \$30,000 a year for a 3 to 5 year period for their capital campaign. Each year the Children's Museum requests funds for the next year. The City has provided \$90,000 over the past 3 years.